

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-05 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-15

IOE-00 ISO-00 EA-11 EUR-25 AF-10 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 DRC-01 /142 W

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P R 271510Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7020

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

US MISSION USUN NEWYORK 0142

AMEMBASSY MASERU

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBABANE 1900

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, CB, WZ

SUBJECT: KHMER CREDENTIALS AT UNESCO 18TH

GENERAL CONFERENCE

REFS: A) STATE 210886 B) MBABANE 1709 C) STATE 213164

1. CHARGE CALLED ON GOS MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS STEPHEN MATSEBULA ON SEPTEMBER 27 TO DISCUSS KHMER CREDENTIALS ISSUE AT UNESCO AND UNGA. CHARGE REITERATED POINTS MADE BY AMBASSADOR BOLEN IN HIS PRESENTATION TO PRIME MINISTER MAKHOSINI ON THIS ISSUE SEPTEMBER 4 (REFTEL B) AND STRESSED THAT UNGA NOT UNESCO WAS PROPER FORUM TO DECIDE POLITICAL QUESTION OF THIS KIND. IN CONCLUSION, CHARGE GAVE MATSEBULA A COPY OF REMARKS BY INDONESIAN FONMIN MALIK (STATE 213164).

2. MATSEBULA REPLIED THAT NORMALLY MINISTRY OF
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EDUCATION, NOT FOREIGN MINISTRY, WOULD NAME

DELEGATION TO UNESCO CONFERENCE AND SO FAR AS HE AWARE, DELEGATES HAD NOT YET BEEN SELECTED. IF GOS DID SEND DELEGATION, IT WOULD OF COURSE RECEIVE ITS INSTRUCTIONS ON POLITICAL MATTERS, SUCH AS KHMER REPRESENTATION ISSUE, FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY.

3. MATSEBULA THEN GAVE EMOTIONAL DESCRIPTION OF SWAZILAND'S "DELICATE POSITION" IN FORTHCOMING UNGA AND SIMILAR INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS. GOS IS UNDER GROWING PRESSURE FROM OTHER AFRICAN STATES TO TAKE A HARDER LINE AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA, PARTICULARLY NOW THAT FRELIMO GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN INSTALLED IN MOZAMBIQUE. WHEN GOS EXPLAINS ITS SPECIAL DIFFICULTIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA OTHER AFRICAN STATES HAVE PROFESSED UNDERSTANDING, BUT THESE OTHER AFRICAN STATES, WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF OAU AS IS SWAZILAND, CANNOT UNDERSTAND GOS REFUSAL TO VOTE WITH THEM ON ISSUES THAT DO NOT DIRECTLY TOUCH ITS INTERESTS, SUCH AS KOREA AND KHMER REPRESENTATION. MATSEBULA SAID THAT GOS IS CONVINCED OF THE LEGAL VALIDITY OF THE US POSITION ON THE KHMER REPRESENTATION ISSUE, FOR EXAMPLE, AND HAS CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED THE US POSITION. HOWEVER, IT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT FOR SWAZILAND TO STAND APART FROM OTHER OAU COUNTRIES ON ISSUES OF THIS KIND.

4. COMMENT: MATSEBULA NOW PLANS TO DEPART SWAZILAND OCT 2 TO HEAD SWAZILAND'S DELEGATION TO UNGA. HIS TASK WILL NOT BE EASY. BECAUSE OF ITS SPECIAL PROBLEMS WITH SOUTH AFRICA, GOS MUST TREAD VERY CAUTIOUSLY ON ISSUES INVOLVING ITS POWERFUL NEIGHBOR AND PLEAD FOR UNDERSTANDING ON THE PART OF OTHER AFRICAN STATES. INCREASINGLY, THE PRICE IT MUST PAY FOR THIS "UNDERSTANDING" IS "SOLIDARITY" WITH OTHER OAU MEMBERS ON ISSUES THAT DO NOT DIRECTLY AFFECT SWAZILAND'S INTERESTS.
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